

Canine Bulletin

Nebraska Task Force - 1

September 1998



What We Can Learn From Geese

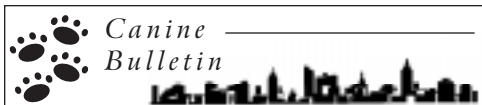
This fall when you see geese heading back south for the winter flying along in "V" formation, you might be interested in knowing what scientists have discovered about why they fly that way. It has been learned that as each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

1. Basic Truth: People who share common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another. Whenever a goose falls out of formation it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly on its own and quickly returns to the formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.
2. Basic Truth: If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed the same way we are and be willing to accept help when we need it and give help when it is needed. When the lead goose gets tired, he rotates back in the formation and another goose flies point.
3. Basic Truth: Geese instinctively share the task of leadership and do not resent the leaders. It pays to take turns doing hard jobs with people or with flying geese.
4. Basic Truth: Geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep their speed. We need to be careful what we say when we honk from behind.

Finally: When a goose gets sick or is wounded by gunshot and falls out, two geese fall out of formation and follow him down to help protect him. They stay with him until he is either able to fly or until he is dead, and then they launch out on their own or with another formation to catch up with their group.

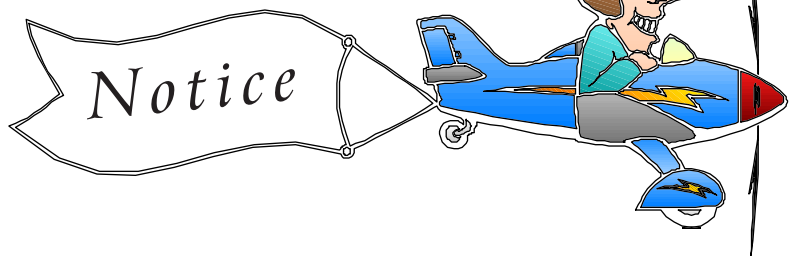
Final Truth: If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other, protect one another, help the one who has dropped out regain his place in the formation, and sometimes make new friends who seem to be going our direction.

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Octo

The October training session on October 17th has been changed for October 31st. More details will be in the October issue.

Wednesday Evening Training Time

Due to the fact that it is getting darker earlier, we will start Wednesday evening training at 6:00 p.m. This will go into effect on Wednesday, September 9, 1998.

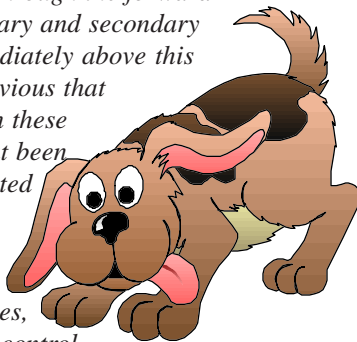
Canine Companion Notes

Courtesy of **Callback ASRS**

Animals shipped in an aircraft's cargo hold are sometime quite unhappy with their traveling accommodations. A ground crew member reports on the case of one very nervous canine flier:

At ABC, a dog kennel was loaded in the forward cargo bin. Upon arrival at XYZ, ramp personnel discovered that the dog had escaped in-flight. The dog was put back in the kennel and shipped on to ZZZ. ZZZ Operations offload message was "dog [in forward bin] escaped kennel, caution when opening forward bin door."

The dog had escaped again enroute to ZZZ. During the flight, the dog clawed its way through the forward cargo bin ceiling panel. Primary and secondary flight control cables run immediately above this ceiling panel. It was fairly obvious that the dog had made contact with these cables by the dust and dirt that been disturbed. No damage was noted and no delay was incurred. Had this flight been of longer duration, however, the dog could have jammed these cables, causing possible loss of flight control by the pilot.

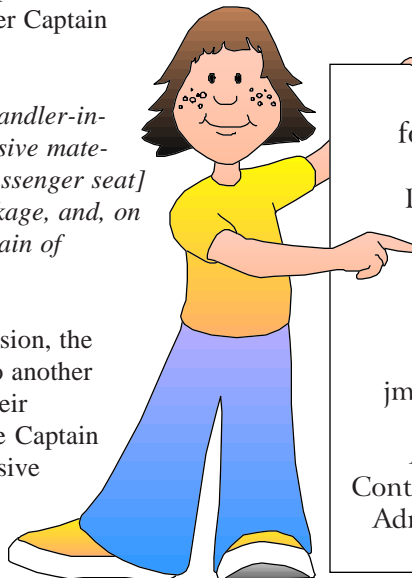


In a callback conversation with an ASFS analyst, the reporter stated that a defective kennel door latch allowed the dog to escape. The reporter added that the ceiling panel was not attached tightly enough to prevent the dog from clawing it away from the ceiling. The moral of the story, for ramp personnel and dog owners alike, is to double-check the security of shipping kennels **before** the flight.

In the next report, "man's best friend" apparently performed well, but the human half of the dog/person team failed to finish the job. An air carrier Captain reports:

Center called to say that a canine handler-in-training had left a package of explosive material on board the aircraft, in the [passenger seat] magazine holder. We found the package, and, on arrival, I handed it over to the Captain of Security.

At the conclusion of the training session, the canine team had been called away to another mission and had forgotten to take their "Training Material" with them. The Captain was able to determine that the explosive material was not a hazard (fortunately!) Unless it had a detonator.



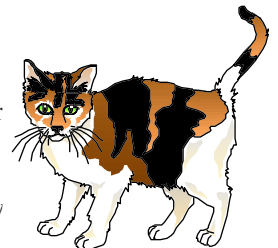
Willy Grundherr Seminar Summary

Gail McCarthy of MATF-1 has kindly put together a summary of Willies seminars. It contains comments by both Willy and Gail. It covers work ethic, reward relationship, cues, use of food, rubble piles and holes, bark barrel/door, training puppies and training progression plus much more. Contact Vicky Moser if you are interested in reading it.

Homes Needed

Two 7 - 8 week old stray kittens were found out at the training center on August 15th. They were starving, dehydrated, full of ringworm and ear mites. They have seen a vet, and are currently being treated for their ringworm and ear mites. Their shots are up to date and they are very healthy and active kitties. The calico female is fairly independent but loves to snuggle when is ready. The gray tiger striped male, is a real lover. He will snuggle any time. They are both litter box trained. Their favorite toy is a pheasant feather on a string. Their favorite activity is purring.

They should be available for new homes around October 10th. If you or anyone that you know would like to take one or both into your family, contact Vicki Moser at 489-3582. Toy included.



Calendar of Canine Training for 1998*

September 19	Outstate in Nebraska
*October 10 & 11	Canine Certification
November 21	NETF - 1 in Missouri
*December	No monthly session

Submission of Items for the "Canine Bulletin"...

Please mail submissions to:
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